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APPROVED
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COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

X-FILES

2099

STOP
IT,
SKULLFIRE!

FEATURING:

THE DRIVER™

METALHEAD™

BROKEN HAIKU™

YOU AND
TUNKPILE™
MUST WORK
TOGETHER!



Stan Lee Presents:

HIT AND RUN

BEWARE OF WHERE
THE TWO LANE
NARROWS INTO ONE--

--WHERE THE ROAD
OFFERS NO SHOULDER
AND NO EXIT--

--AND WHERE THE TERRITORY
AHEAD IS UNKNOWN.

ON THIS HIGHWAY, YOU'VE
LOST CONTROL OF THE
WHEEL.

YOU'RE RIDING
SHOTGUN WITH
DESTINY.

CALL A
TRUCE,
BOYS!

YOU'RE
ABSOLUTELY NO
USE TO ME IF
YOU KILL EACH
OTHER.

NO WAY, LUNA--
I'M NOT GONNA
WORK WITH THIS
WALKING X-RAY--

--I'M GONNA BREAK
EVERY BONE IN
FITZGERALD'S SCRAWNY
LITTLE BODY.

YOU'LL TRY
JUNKPILE--

--AND THEN I'LL
MAKE YOU CHOKE
ON THE MOTOR OIL
THAT RUNS THROUGH
YOUR VEINS.

AT THE
CROSSROADS
WITH

JOHN FRANCIS
MOORE
WRITER

RON
LIM
PENCILER

HARRY
CANDELARIO
INKER

KEN
LOPEZ
LETTERER

TOM
SMITH
COLORIST

JOEY
CAVALIERI AND
DEPALCO
LEADFOOT KING OF THE ROAD

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* IN X-MEN
2099 #3 --
JOEY

BRING IT
ON, MEAT.
BRING IT
ON.

YOU AND THE REST OF
XI'ANS SHEEP CAUSED
ME SOME SERIOUS
GRIEF IN VEGAS. *

NOW, I'M READY
TO ADMINISTER
PAYMENT IN
KIND.

JUNKPILE,
PUT IT IN
NEUTRAL...

LET
HIM GO,
LUNA--

WHEN I THINK ABOUT THE
WAY HE KILLED SERPENTINA
IN COLD BLOOD--

--IT
MAKES
ME
CRAZY.

MAYBE
SLAGGING
JUNKPILE WON'T
BRING HER
BACK--

--BUT IT'LL
SURE MAKE ME
FEEL BETTER.

SHUT
UP!



IF YOU TWO
DON'T LOWER
YOUR TESTOSTER-
ONE IN THE NEXT
FIVE SECONDS--

I'M GONNA
KICK BOTH OF
YOUR MUTANT
BUTTS ALL THE
WAY ACROSS
TEXAS.

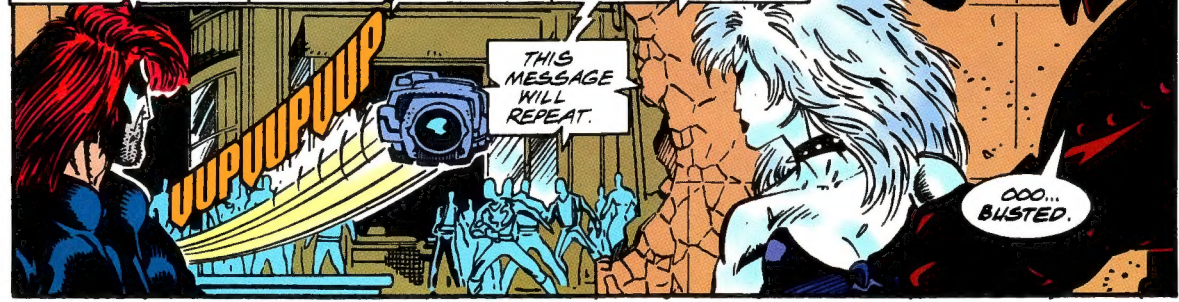
DO I MAKE
MYSELF--

ATTENTION, SHOPPERS.
YOU ARE IN VIOLATION
OF MERCADO
REGULATIONS.

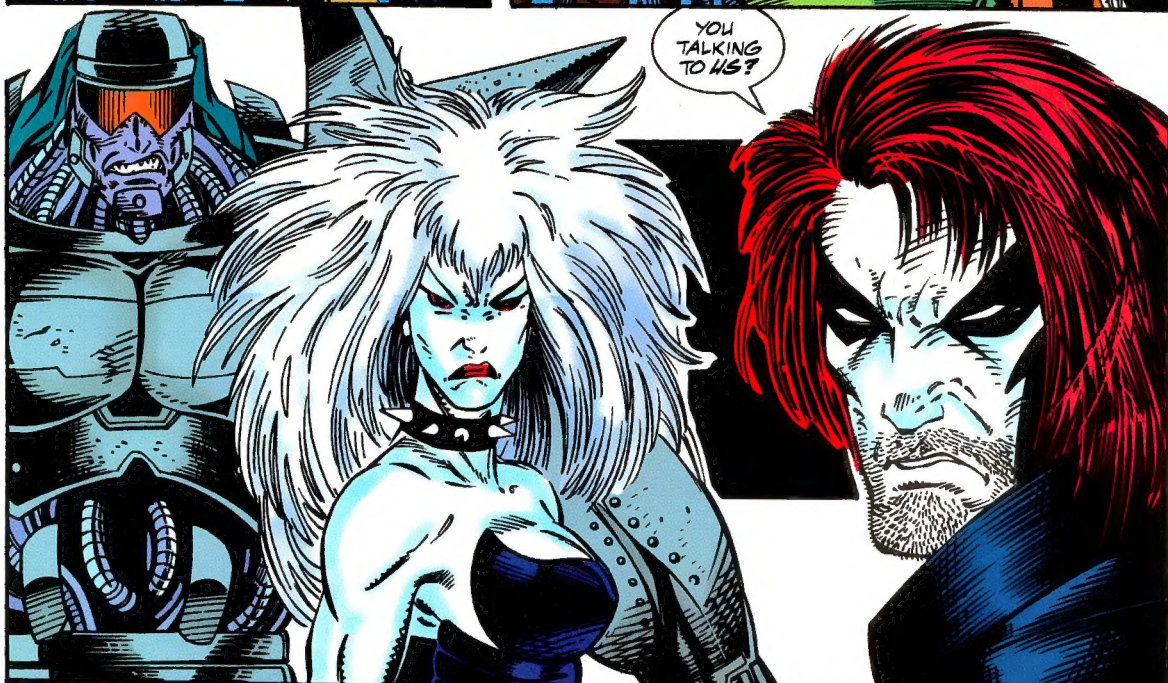
PLEASE WAIT FOR A
SECURITY REPRESENTATIVE
TO TAKE YOUR NAMES AND
CREDIT CARD NUMBERS.

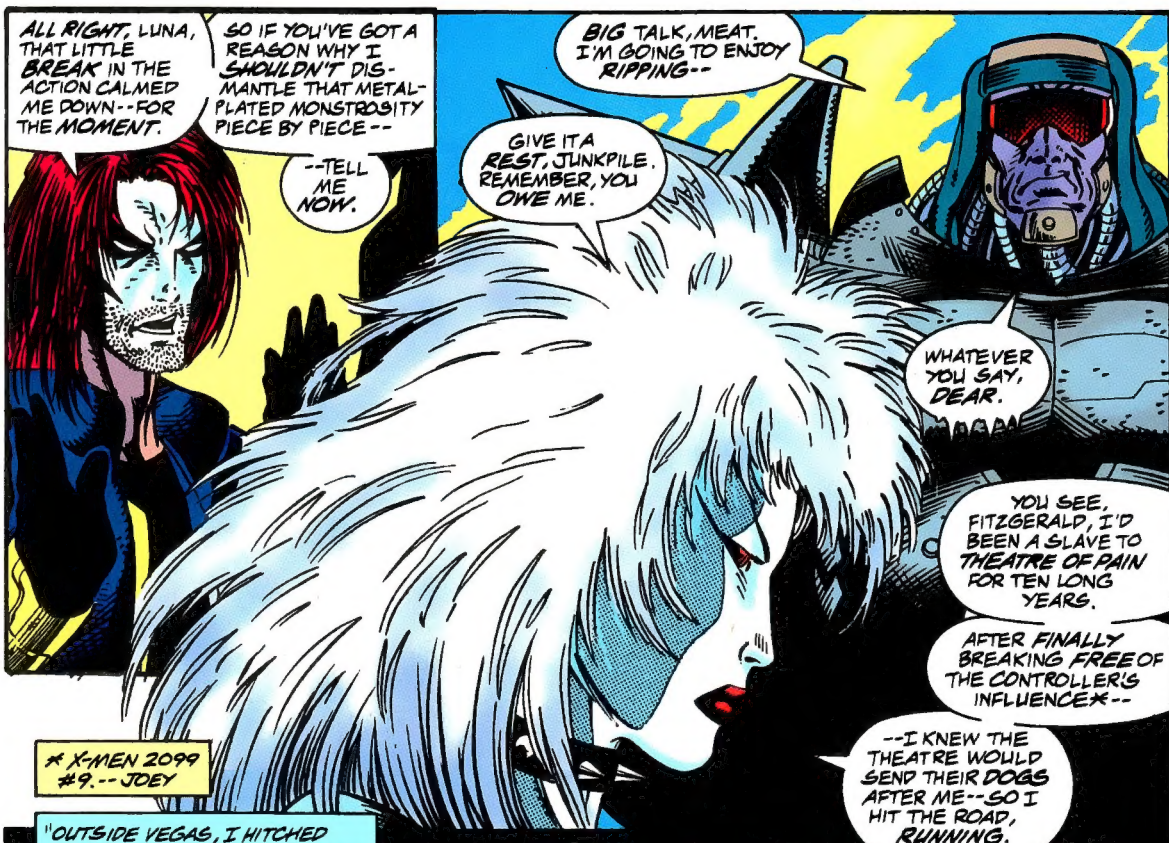
FAILURE TO COMPLY
MAY RESULT IN THE
REVOCATION OF ALL
SHOPPING PRIVILEGES.

THIS
MESSAGE
WILL
REPEAT.



OOO...
BUSTED.





ALL RIGHT, LUNA, THAT LITTLE BREAK IN THE ACTION CALMED ME DOWN--FOR THE MOMENT.

SO IF YOU'VE GOT A REASON WHY I SHOULDN'T DISMANTLE THAT METAL-PLATED MONSTROSITY PIECE BY PIECE--

--TELL ME NOW.

BIG TALK, MEAT. I'M GOING TO ENJOY RIPPING--

GIVE IT A REST, JUNKPILE. REMEMBER, YOU OWE ME.

WHATEVER YOU SAY, DEAR.

YOU SEE, FITZGERALD, I'D BEEN A SLAVE TO THEATRE OF PAIN FOR TEN LONG YEARS.

AFTER FINALLY BREAKING FREE OF THE CONTROLLER'S INFLUENCE--

--I KNEW THE THEATRE WOULD SEND THEIR DOGS AFTER ME--SO I HIT THE ROAD, RUNNING.

* X-MEN 2099 #9.--JOEY

"OUTSIDE VEGAS, I HITCHED A RIDE ON A SYNGE TRANSPORT HEADED EAST.

"TOO BAD THE DRIVER COULDN'T KEEP HIS EYES ON THE ROAD OR HIS HANDS ON THE WHEEL.

"WHEN I SLAMMED HIS HEAD INTO THE DASH, THE TRUCK JACKKNIFED.

"I SURVIVED, THE DRIVER DIDN'T.



"BEFORE HE DIED, I PSYCHICALLY FED ON HIS LAST MOMENTS OF PAIN AND ANGUISH--

"--AND LEARNED HE WAS DEATHLY AFRAID OF HIS CARGO.

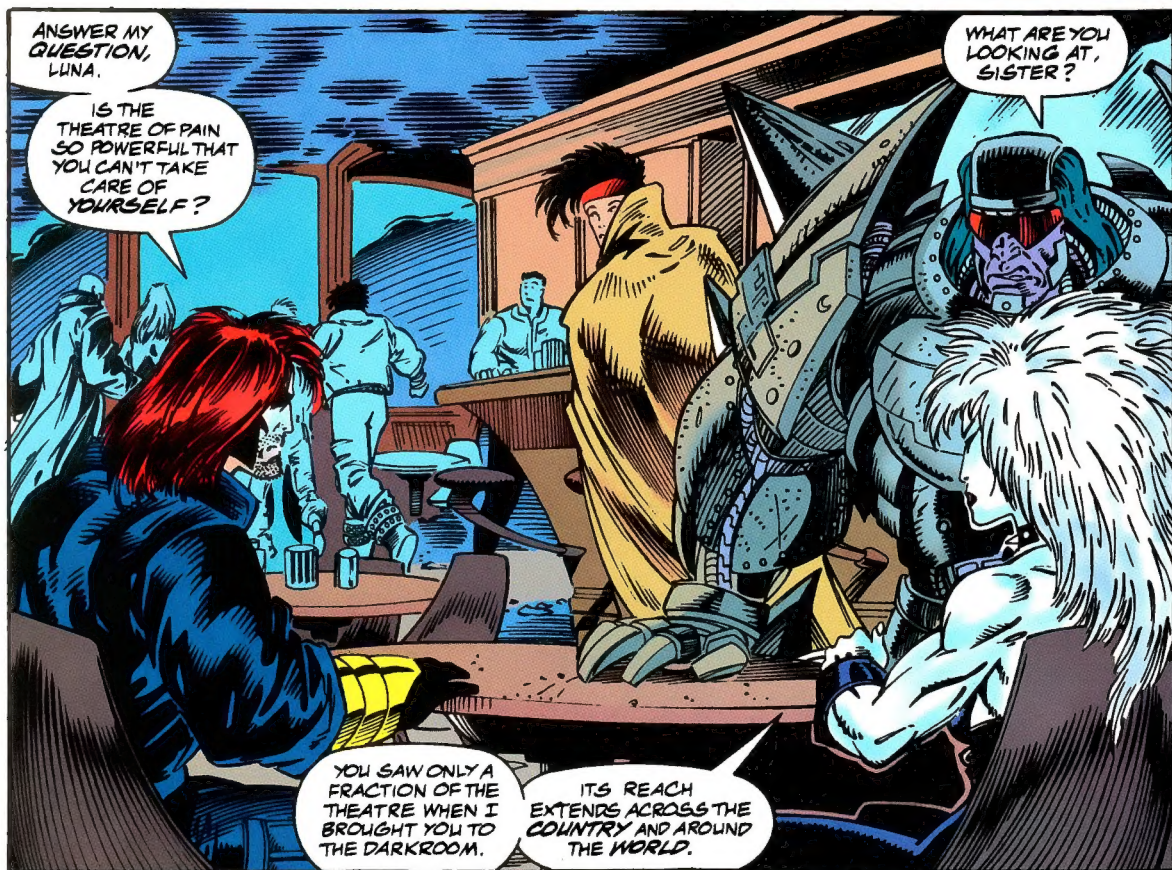


"CURIOUS, I OPENED THE TRANSPORT HOLD AND FOUND JUNKPILE--DRUGGED AND RESTRAINED.

"DESDEMONA SYNGE HAD SOLD HIM TO AN ALCHEMAX BIOSHOP.

"I KNEW HE COULD BE MORE VALUABLE TO ME THAN TO ANY MEDTECH."





"THE THEATRE TRAFFICS IN HUMAN MISERY, PROVIDING TWISTED ENTERTAINMENT TO A DECADENT CIENTELE."

"ITS HIERARCHY SPECIALIZES IN TORTURES VULGAR AND SUBLIME--"

THE THEATRE SEES THE REST OF THE WORLD AS CHATTEL TO BE USED AND ABUSED AT THEIR WHIM.

THEY'VE KEPT CIRCUIT-SKIPS AT MY HEELS SINCE I BROKE FREE OF THEIR CONTROL.*

I'M TIRED OF RUNNING. I WANT THEM OFF MY BACK.

AND YOU WANT US TO HELP YOU TAKE ON THIS MARQUIS DE SADE ROAD COMPANY.

ODDS ARE AGAINST US. SOMEBODY COULD GET HURT. I LIKE THE POSSIBILITIES.

*X-MEN 2099 #10--JOEY

"--FROM THE GRAND GUIGNOL BLOODSPORT OF THE NORNS, TO THE SADISTIC MACHINATIONS OF THE CONTROLLERS."

CAREFUL, LUNA, NO MATTER WHAT HE PROMISED--

--I WOULDN'T TRUST JUNKPILE TO HELP ANYONE BUT HIMSELF.

"BUT NORN AND CONTROLLER PALE BEFORE THE CALCULATED CRUELTY AND WHITE HOT FURY OF THE THEATRE'S DEMONIC LEADER--"

"--BRIMSTONE LOVE."

AH, THE STRAY IS HERE.

SO HARD TO DISGUISE A BODY'S HEAT SIGNATURE FROM ONE ATTUNED TO THE INFRA-RED SPECTRUM.

A LESSON MUST BE TAUGHT. AN EXAMPLE MADE.

NO ONE LEAVES THE THEATRE BEFORE THE FINAL CURTAIN.

BULLPEN MARVEL COMICS BULLETINS

Profile: SAL BUSCEMA



Over the years, "Our Pal" Sal has drawn just about every character in the Marvel Universe — everyone from ROM: SPACEKNIGHT to the INCREDIBLE HULK — and has earned a reputation for being one of the most talented and fastest artists in the business! Sal has been drawing SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN for six years now, and says he plans to stay on at least until issue #250!

Where and when were you born?

I was born in Brooklyn, NY, in January of 1936.

How did you break into the business?

My brother John was in the business first — he's eight years older than me. He got his first job with Stan Lee when (Marvel was called) Timely — that was back in the forties. That spurred me on — my ambition was to be a comic book artist. But just when I was ready to break in, the comic industry died. I had to wait 13 years for an opening.

When the opportunity arose, John put me in touch with Stan Lee. I did up some sample pages. Stan saw 'em and liked 'em, and the rest is history! I wanted to do inking, but for some reason, they liked my pencils!

Is there any competition or rivalry between you and John?

No, in fact, John has always been a great encourager to me. He was an inspiration and a role model. I really feel he's been a big influence.

You two haven't worked together too often, have you?

No, much to my regret. I love inking his stuff. I'd rather ink John than anyone else. Unfortunately, I haven't had too many opportunities.

You ink all your own work these days. Why is that?

I think my stuff looks better when I ink it myself. Any individual artist always inks himself better than other people. I know John feels the same way.

You used to do 3 or 4 books a month — now you only do one. Why is that?

The industry has changed dramatically since I've been in the business. I've been blessed with speed. When editors

ran into deadline troubles, they used to call me to turn out a book in record time. I established a reputation for being fast — I once did breakdowns for five books in one month! These days, I don't have to do that. Also, the monetary compensation is much greater.

What's the most number of pages you did in one day?

I did 13 pages of breakdowns in one day. But I couldn't see at the end of the day! I'm still fairly fast. I can do two pages of pencils and inks in one 6-7 hour workday.

How has your style changed over the years?

Drastically! Years ago, I tended to be greatly influenced by other people. I learned a lot by looking at the giants in the industry — Jack Kirby, Joe Kubert. Only a few years ago did I find a style that I can call my own. I've found my niche! These days, I see people like John Romita Jr. doing absolutely phenomenal stuff, and I pick up stuff from him. You never stop learning.

Who is your favorite character to draw?

I would have to say the Incredible Hulk. I have a real soft-spot in my heart for the old standby characters like Hulk and Captain America.

Any closing comments?

I've been with Marvel for 26 years. I've had opportunities to leave Marvel on numerous occasions — some very kind offers — but I have no reason to! Marvel is a great outfit to work for, and that's the reason I've been with it for so long!

HYPE BOX

The time has come for justice! This week, the New Warrior leaps into the pages of his own limited series,

JUSTICE: FOUR BALANCE! According to writer Fabian

Nicieza, the series takes a hard look at

child abuse, as "Vance learns more about the

demons which drove his father to become

such an abusive person" Among the

heroes appearing in

JUSTICE will be the

New Warriors

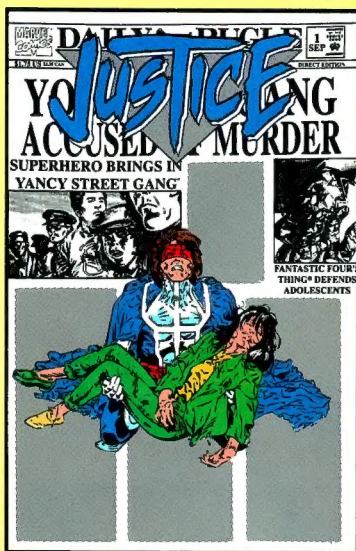
(especially Firestar),

Captain America, and

the Thing. Fabes had high praise for

penciler Craig

Brasfield, saying "he is doing a terrific job!"



NOW ON SALE

- **AVENGERS #378:** Quicksilver learns the shocking truth about his father! By Harris/Palmer!
- **BEAVIS & BUTT-HEAD #7:** Some poor girls date the gruesome twosome! By Lackey/Parker!
- **CAPTAIN AMERICA: STREETS OF POISON TPB:** A grim and gritty Cap epic! By Gruenwald/Lim/Bulanadi!
- **CONAN THE ADVENTURER #4:** Torn between two Golems! By Thomas/Kayanan!
- **CONEHEDS #4 OF 4:** A galactic hit team comes to silence the cones! By Collins/Richmond/Severini!
- **DOOM 2099 #21:** Doom and Bloodhawk duke it out in the Savage Land! By Moore/Broderick/Nyberg!
- **EXCALIBUR #61:** Move over, Deathlok! Here comes Doug-lok! By Yale/Lashley/Candelario!

- **EXCALIBUR ANNUAL #2:** Family feud with Jamie Braddock, Captain Britain and Paylocke! By Ashford/Royale/Candelario!
- **FANTASTIC FOUR UNLIMITED #7:** All Thing! All monsters! All great! By Thomas/Timpe/LaRosa!
- **GHOST RIDER 2099 #5:** GR learns how he became a ghost in the machine! By Kaminski/Buckingham!
- **G.I. JOE #152:** Ten-Hut! It's the very first adventure of the first G.I. Joe! By Hama/Gosier/Koblish!
- **HYPERKIND UNLEASHED #1:** Will the Hyperkind surrender their powers? By Burke/Cruz/Halblieb!
- **INCREDIBLE HULK #421:** He has a hammer, he's from Asgard...but is he Thor? By David/Frank/Smith!
- **JUSTICE: FOUR BALANCE #1 OF 4:** The New Warrior balances the scales! By Nicieza/Brasfield/Turner!
- **MARVEL AGE #140:** The Brothers Hildebrandt and the Marvel Action

- Hour! Last — sniff — issue!
- **MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #163:** From the pages of VENOM, it's the Mace!
- **MARVEL TALES #289:** Spidey, Silver Sable, the Sinister Syndicate ... it's swell! By DeFalco/Frenz/Breeding!
- **MORBIUS #25:** Morby is head over fangs in love! Double-sized dynamite! By Trusiani/Gilmore!
- **NOVA #9:** It's Nova force vs. Shatterforce! By Martin/Stegbauer!
- **PUNISHER #94:** Frank is dishing out some final punishment before ... the end! By Abnett & Lanning/Teran!
- **ROCKO'S MODERN LIFE #4:** Rocko faces the threat of a living VCR! By Lewandowski/Auck/Fields!
- **SABRETOOTH CLASSICS #5:** The Black Cat kicks Creed's butt! Really! By David/Buckler/McLeod!

- **SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #225:** Valeria returns in a prequel to "Red Nails!" By Thomas/Buscema!
- **SPIDER-MAN #50:** Double-sized action! The son of Kraven hunts Spidey! By Mackie/Lyle/Hannal!
- **SPIDER-MAN MAGAZINE #6:** Stories for kids, with Spidey, Storm, & Jubilee!
- **TRANSFORMERS: GENERATION 2 #11:** In battle with the Swarm! By Furman/Galan & Amash/Senior!
- **WARLOCK & THE INFINITY WATCH #32:** Poisoned by Count Abyss! By Ashford/Oliffe!
- **WHAT IF #65:** Archangel becomes the arch-enemy of the X-Men! By Furman/Higgins!
- **X-MEN #36:** Lo, there shall be a next generation of mutants! By Nicieza/Kubert/Ryan!
- **X-MEN 2099 #12:** The big blowout battle between Xi'an and Brimstone! By Moore/Lim/Sanders III!

AS DR. STRANGE BATTLES POLARIS ... THE FANTASTIC FORCE PREMIERES IN FANTASTIC FOUR ...

NEWSBITES: NEXT WEEK THE BLACK CAT IS UP AGAINST THE FIRST STRIKERS ... BLADE MEETS DRACULA ... BLAZE MEETS THE MAN-THING ... MAGIC VS. MAGNETISM

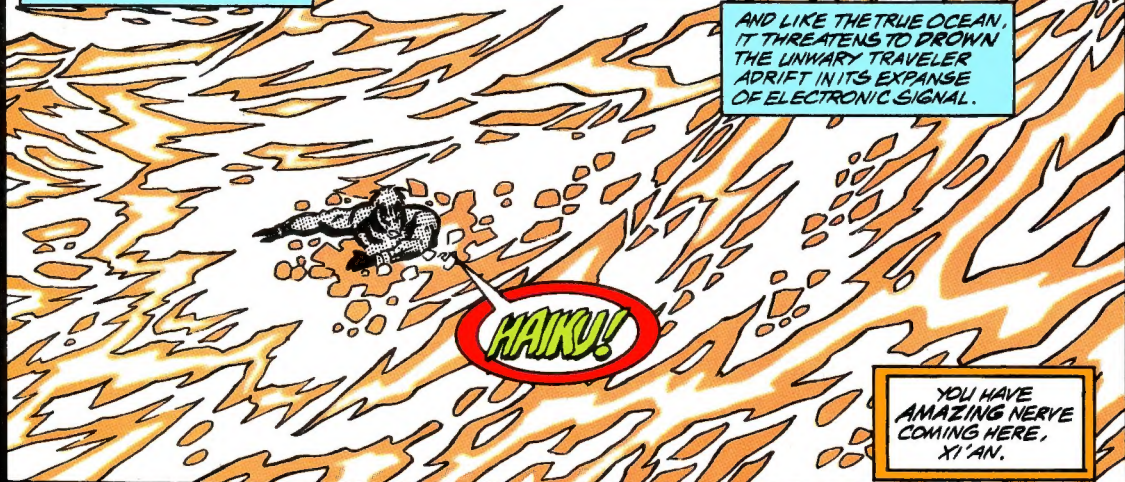
NIGHTWATCH TAKES ON VENOM ... THUNDERSTRIKE COMBATS WHYTE OUT ... IRON MAN AT WAR WITH VORTEX ... THOR VERSUS THOR ... ALL THIS AND STAPLES TOO!

IN THE CYBERVERSE, THE
ENDLESS STREAM OF
ELECTRONIC INFORMATION
ASSUMES METAPHORIC
REALITY.

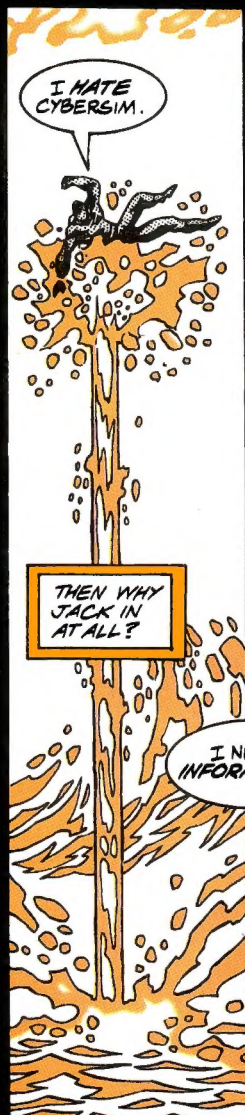
TO THE ON-LINE USER, THE
NET APPEARS IN MANY FORMS
FROM TROMPE-L'OEIL REALITY
TO MIND-BENDING ABSTRACTION.

HERE, IN THIS CORNER OF THE
ETHER, THE SPACE HAS BEEN
CRAFTED INTO A RAGING
OCEAN OF BINARY CODE.

AND LIKE THE TRUE OCEAN,
IT THREATENS TO DROWN
THE UNWARY TRAVELER
ADRIFT IN ITS EXPANSE
OF ELECTRONIC SIGNAL.



YOU HAVE
AMAZING NERVE
COMING HERE,
XI'AN.



I HATE
CYBERSIM.

THEN WHY
JACK IN
AT ALL?

I NEED
INFORMATION.



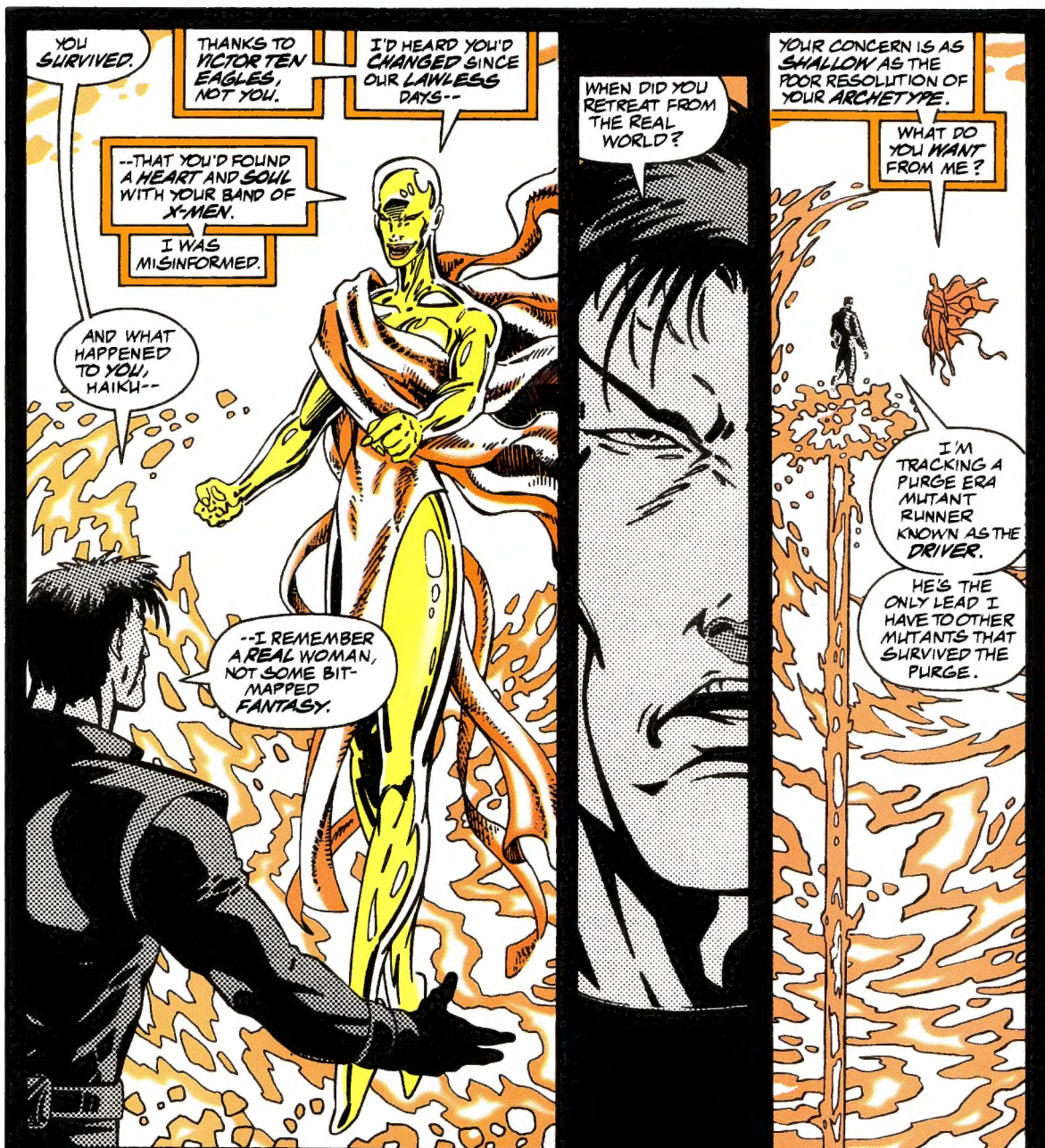
A FAVOR? YOU ARE
AS ARROGANT AS
EVER.

ARE YOU
STILL ANGRY I
WALKED OUT
ON YOU?



YOU DIDN'T
WALK OUT ON
ME, XI'AN--

YOU LEFT ME
TO DIE.



YOU SURVIVED.

THANKS TO VICTOR TEN EAGLES, NOT YOU.

I'D HEARD YOU'D CHANGED SINCE OUR LAWLESS DAYS--

--THAT YOU'D FOUND A HEART AND SOUL WITH YOUR BAND OF X-MEN.

I WAS MISINFORMED.

AND WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU, HAIRY--

--I REMEMBER A REAL WOMAN, NOT SOME BIT-MAPPED FANTASY.

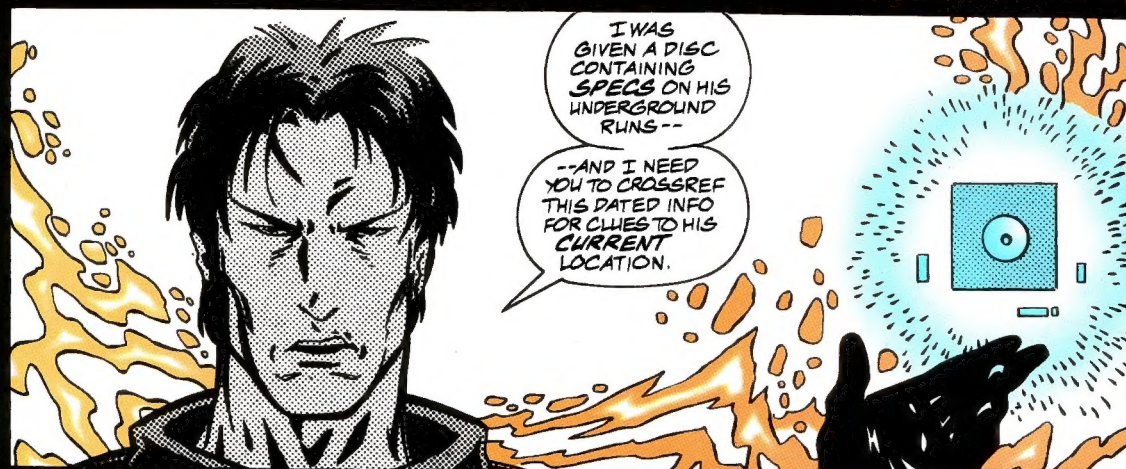
WHEN DID YOU RETREAT FROM THE REAL WORLD?

YOUR CONCERN IS AS SHALLOW AS THE POOR RESOLUTION OF YOUR ARCHETYPE.

WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME?

I'M TRACKING A PURGE ERA MUTANT RUNNER KNOWN AS THE DRIVER.

HE'S THE ONLY LEAD I HAVE TO OTHER MUTANTS THAT SURVIVED THE PURGE.



I WAS GIVEN A DISC CONTAINING SPECS ON HIS UNDERGROUND RUNS--

--AND I NEED YOU TO CROSSREF THIS DATED INFO FOR CLUES TO HIS CURRENT LOCATION.

YOU ALWAYS WANT
THE WORLD, XI'AN.

WHAT IF THE
INFORMATION
LEADS
NOWHERE?

JUST
CHECK IT
OUT.

NO ONE EVER CRACKED
INFONETS AND CREDIT
BANKS WITH A LIGHTER
AND MORE KNOWING
TOUCH THAN YOU.

PING

SAVE YOUR
FLATTERY.
IT'S DONE.

I EXAMINED THE DATA,
RAN IT THROUGH MY
SOURCES AND FOUND
YOUR DRIVER...

A WORD OF
WARNING, XI'AN.
WHAT YOU FIND
WILL NOT BE
WHAT YOU
EXPECT.

WHAT
DOES
THAT
ME--?

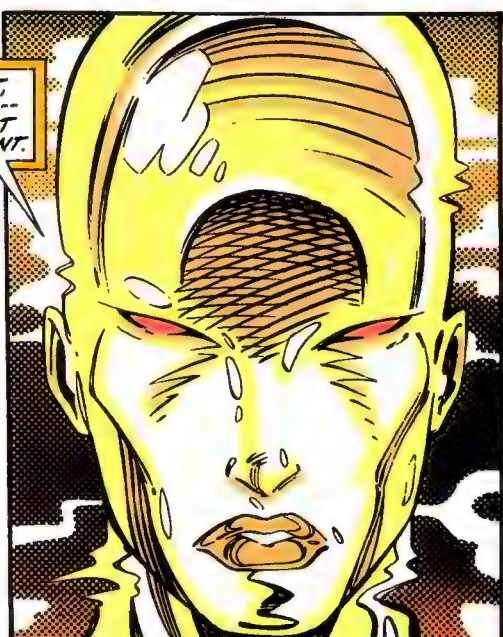
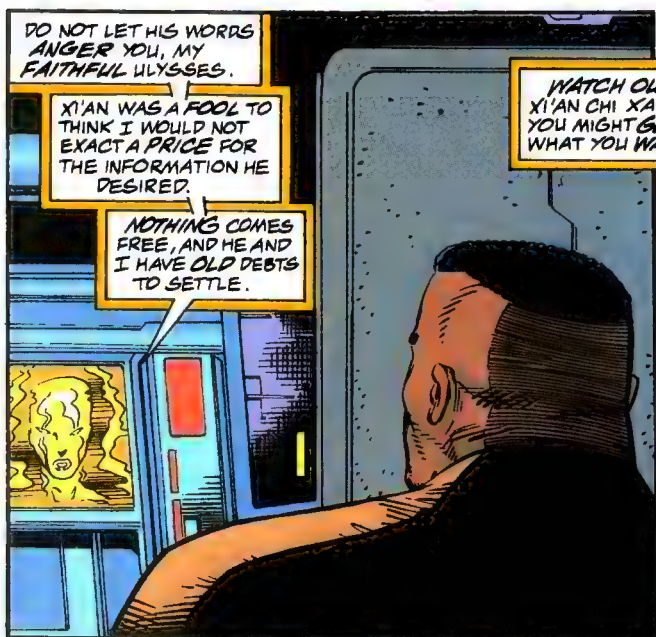
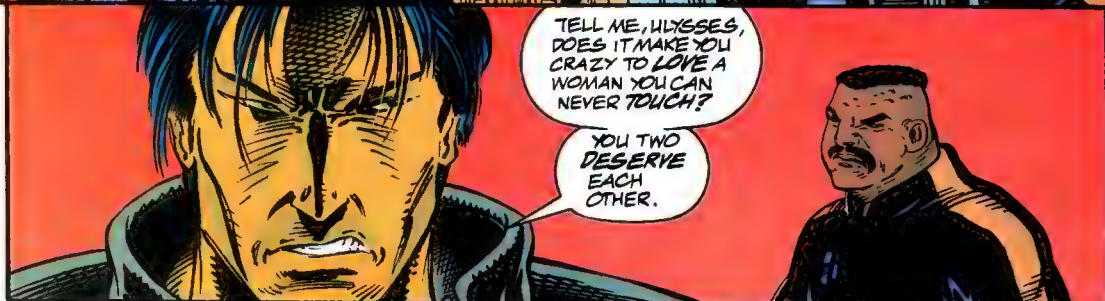
CUT
OFF.

HAIKU, YOU USED TO BE
THE HOTTEST, NASTIEST
CIRCUIT GIRL ON THE
ADRENALINE PROWL.

WHAT A SHAME TO FIND
YOU LOCKED UP IN A SELF-
MADE NEUROTECH
COFFIN.

AT LEAST,
SHE GAVE
ME WHAT I
WANTED.

WHICH
IS MORE
THAN YOU
DESERVE.



ELSEWHERE.

MY TIME ON THE ROAD
HAS STRETCHED FROM
YEARS TO DECADES.

YET, I SEEM
UNTOUCHED BY THE
PASSAGE OF TIME.

I REMEMBER SO LITTLE OF
THE LIFE I ONCE LIVED--

--BEFORE I WAS BONDED
TO THE NITROBURN AND
GIVEN DIRECTION.

ASSEMBLE THE LOST
MUTANT TRIBE AND
BRING THEM HERE TO
THE GARAGE--

THEY ARE SAFE HERE,
CONCEALED WITHIN
THE MEMORY OF THE
COMPUTER--

--AWAITING
RESURRECTION.

INCOMING
MESSAGE.
ON SCREEN.

A MESSAGE?
BUT HOW? THIS
IS A LOCKED
SYSTEM.

NO SYSTEM
IS EVER
TOTALLY
SECURE.

HENRIETTA,
TEXAS.

BKRASHH

THANK YOU, EDDIE.
THIS WILL BE A FINE
PLACE FOR US TO
SPEND THE NIGHT.

WE'LL REACH THE
RESERVATION
TOMORROW.

I COULD HAVE
TRANSFORMED THE
LOCK INTO GLASS
SO WE COULD
BREAK IN WITHOUT
BREAKING DOWN
THE DOORS.

THERE
YOU GO,
MAMA.

NOW, NOW, BREAKDOWN,
EDDIE WAS JUST TRYING
TO BE HELPFUL.

BUT HE'S NOT A DEGEN. HE DOESN'T BELONG WITH
LIKE WE ARE, MAMA. THE FREAKSHOW.
HE'S A MUTANT.

I WANT TO
CARRY MY SHARE,
MAMA. YOU'VE BEEN
GOOD TO ME.

GOOD TO HAVE YOU
ALONG FOR THE RIDE, SON.
AND DON'T WORRY, THERE'LL
BE PLENTY OF WORK FOR
YOU TO DO DOWN THE ROAD.

MY, HOW MY LITTLE
FAMILY HAS GROWN SINCE
I MET BREAKDOWN AND
ROSA IN TEMPE.

WHY DOES MY
BEING A MUTANT
BOTHER YOU SO,
BREAKDOWN?

BACK OFF, CESAR. YOU'VE BEEN
AT EDDIE'S THROAT SINCE WE LEFT
IRON HORSE.

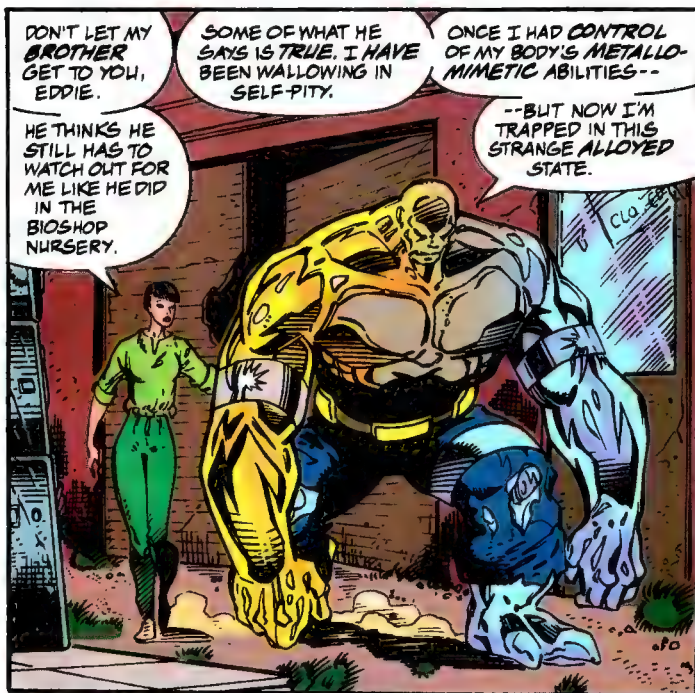
AND IT'S
BECAUSE
OF ME.

YOU'VE
ALREADY MADE
ONE MISTAKE,
HERMANA.

I DON'T
WANT YOU
TO MAKE
ANOTHER.

EVERYTHING
ABOUT YOU
BOTHERS ME,
METALHEAD.

YOU'RE SLUMMING
'CAUSE YOU LOST YOUR
PRETTY BOY LOOKS AND
WANT TO HIDE AMONG THE
REST OF THE MONSTERS.



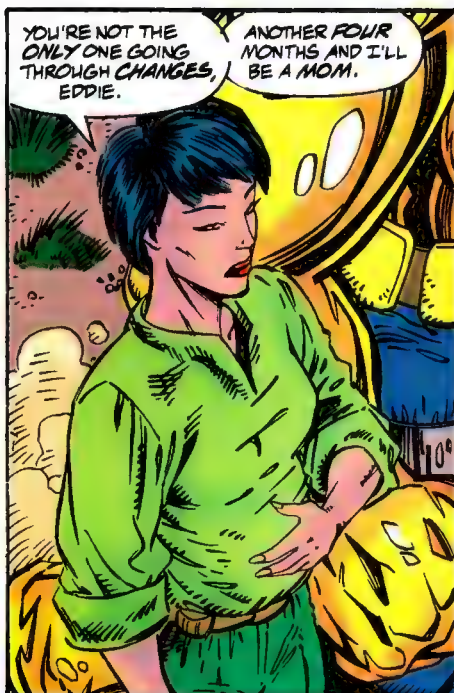
DON'T LET MY BROTHER GET TO YOU, EDDIE.

HE THINKS HE STILL HAS TO WATCH OUT FOR ME LIKE HE DID IN THE BIOSHOP NURSERY.

SOME OF WHAT HE SAYS IS TRUE. I HAVE BEEN WALLOWING IN SELF-PITY.

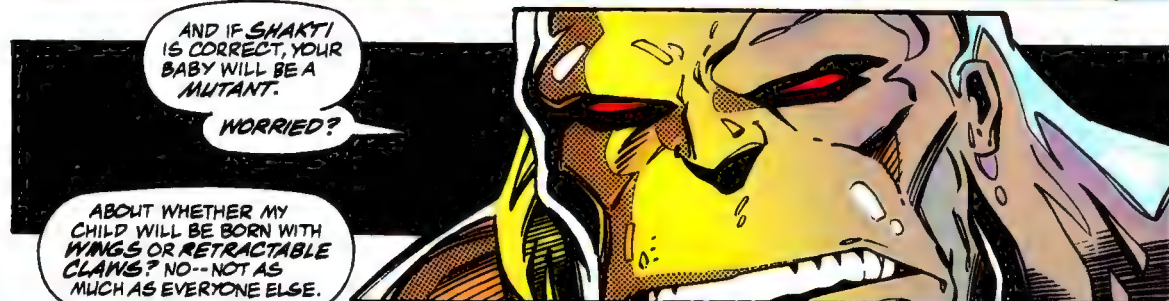
ONCE I HAD CONTROL OF MY BODY'S METALLO-MIMETIC ABILITIES--

--BUT NOW I'M TRAPPED IN THIS STRANGE ALLOYED STATE.



YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE GOING THROUGH CHANGES, EDDIE.

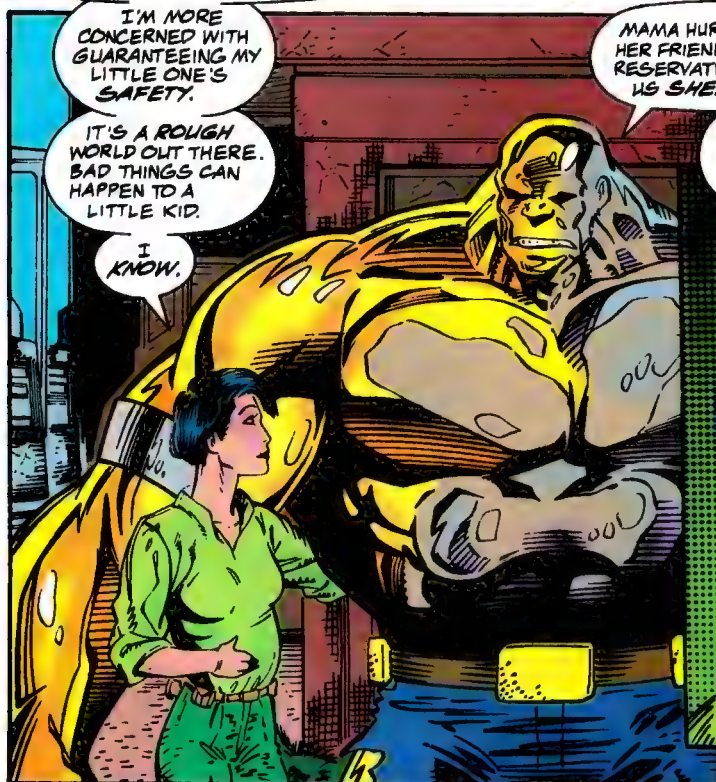
ANOTHER FOUR MONTHS AND I'LL BE A MOM.



AND IF SHAKTI IS CORRECT, YOUR BABY WILL BE A MUTANT.

WORRIED?

ABOUT WHETHER MY CHILD WILL BE BORN WITH WINGS OR RETRACTABLE CLAWS? NO--NOT AS MUCH AS EVERYONE ELSE.



I'M MORE CONCERNED WITH GUARANTEEING MY LITTLE ONE'S SAFETY.

IT'S A ROUGH WORLD OUT THERE. BAD THINGS CAN HAPPEN TO A LITTLE KID.

I KNOW.

MAMA HURRICANE SAYS HER FRIENDS ON THE RESERVATION WILL GIVE US SHELTER.

YOU ARE A STRONG WOMAN, ROSA.

I HAVE TO BE SOMEONE'S DEPENDING ON ME.





CAFE NORTEAMERICANO.

--LOOK, I'LL SERVE ANYBODY--

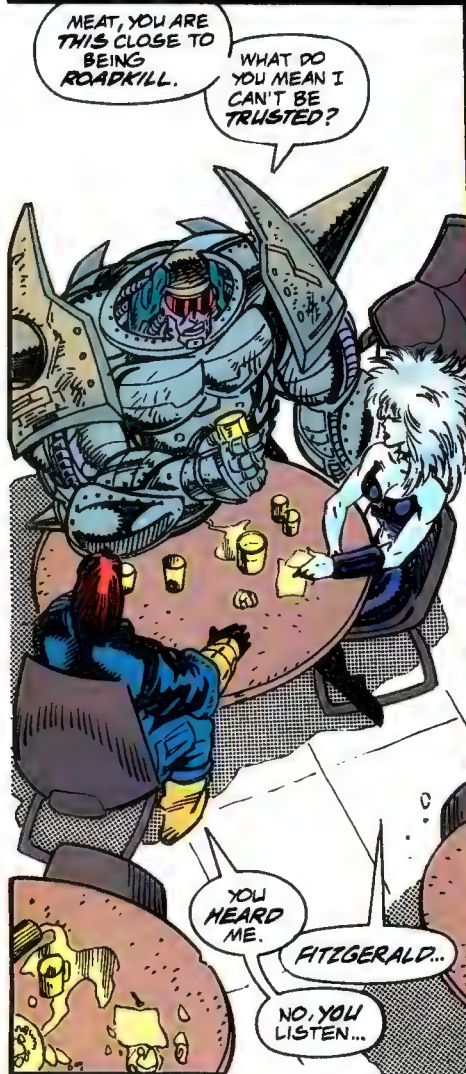
--BUT I SURE WISH THAT TABLE HADN'T SCARED ALL MY OTHERS CUSTOMERS AWAY.

YES, I CAN SEE HOW THOSE THREE MIGHT BE BAD FOR BUSINESS.

YOU SAID IT, AMIGO.

SAY, IS IT GETTING HOT IN HERE?

SOON.



MEAT, YOU ARE THIS CLOSE TO BEING ROADKILL.

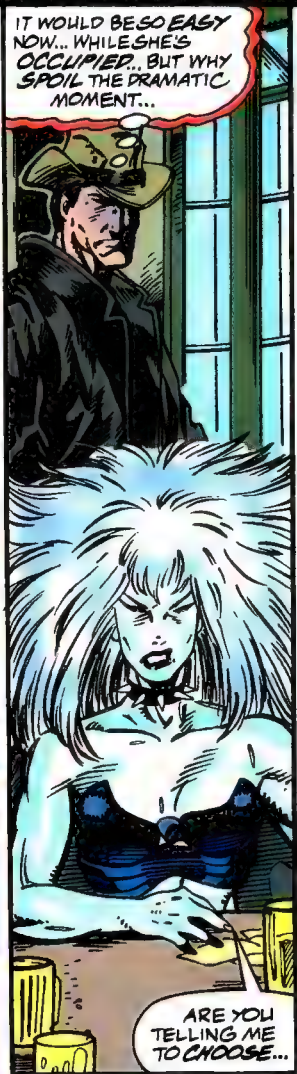
WHAT DO YOU MEAN I CAN'T BE TRUSTED?



...THIS IS ONE GAME I WON'T PLAY.

YOU WANT MY HELP, YOU'VE GOT IT...

...BUT NOT WITH HIM.



IT WOULD BE SO EASY NOW... WHILE SHE'S OCCUPIED... BUT WHY SPOIL THE DRAMATIC MOMENT...

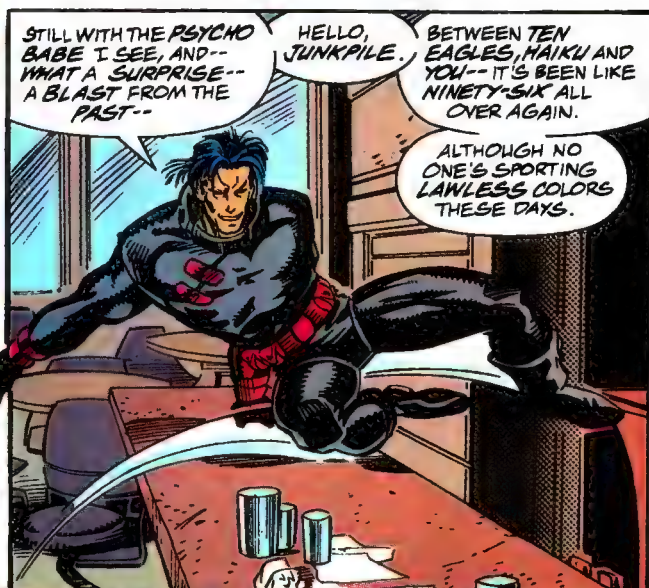
ARE YOU TELLING ME TO CHOOSE...



...WHEN ANOTHER PLAYER
MAKES HIS ENTRANCE.

HEY, KIDS, ISN'T
THIS JOINT A
LITTLE MUNDANE--

X'IAN!

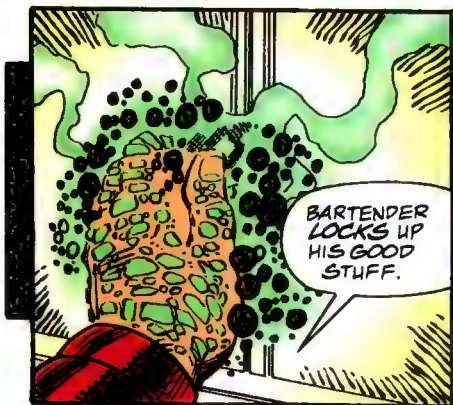


STILL WITH THE PSYCHO
BABE I SEE, AND--
WHAT A SURPRISE--
A BLAST FROM THE
PAST--

HELLO,
JUNKPILE.

BETWEEN TEN
EAGLES, HAIKU AND
YOU-- IT'S BEEN LIKE
NINETY-SIX ALL
OVER AGAIN.

ALTHOUGH NO
ONE'S SPORTING
LAWLESS COLORS
THESE DAYS.



BARTENDER
LOCKS UP
HIS GOOD
STUFF.



HEY, JUNKPILE,
D'YOU STILL HAVE
A TASTE FOR
GENOSHAN
WHISKEY?



I DON'T GET IT, YOU
NEARLY KILLED ME
WITH THAT BIZARRO
HAND BACK IN
VEGAS--

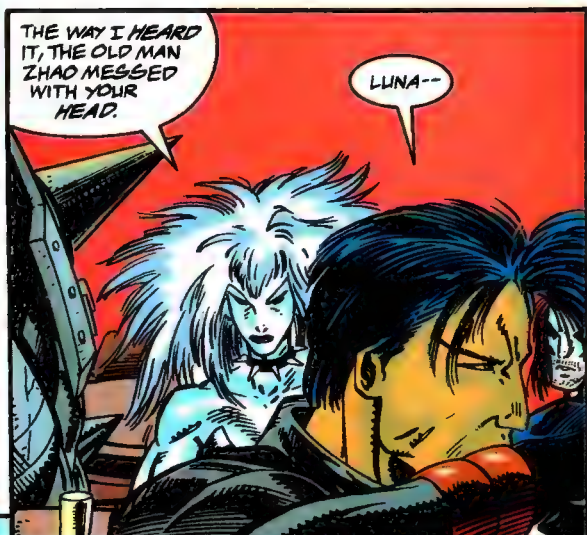
--AND NOW
YOU'RE
OFFERIN'
ME A
DRINK?

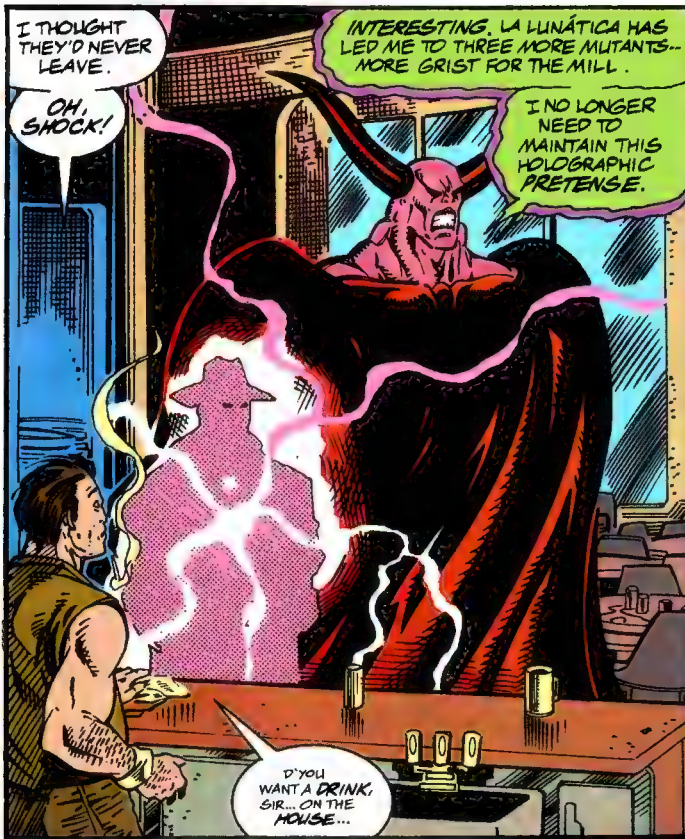
K
L
A
N
G



THE PAST IS DONE,
GET OVER IT. YOU
CROSSED ME ONCE,
AND I TOOK YOU
OUT.

IF I'D WANTED
YOU DEAD, JUNKPILE,
YOU KNOW YOU'D BE
NOTHING BUT SCRAP
METAL RIGHT NOW.





I THOUGHT THEY'D NEVER LEAVE.

OH, SHOCK!

INTERESTING. LA LUNÁTICA HAS LED ME TO THREE MORE MUTANTS... MORE GRIST FOR THE MILL.

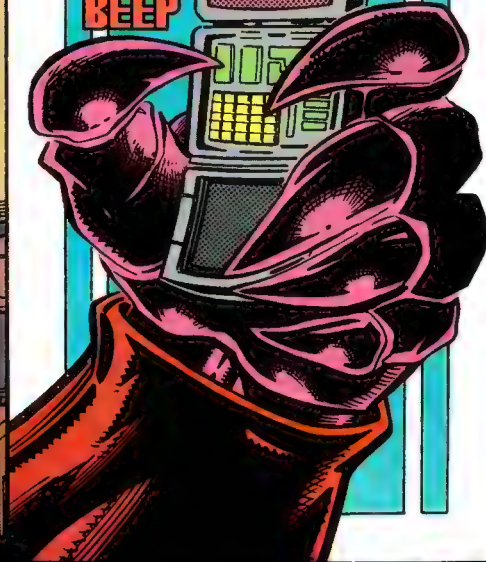
I NO LONGER NEED TO MAINTAIN THIS HOLOGRAPHIC PRETENSE.

D'YOU WANT A DRINK, SIR... ON THE HOUSE...

THANK YOU, BARKEEP, BUT NO, I NEED INFORMATION.

CHARON, SEND ME FILES ON XI'AN CHI XAN.

BEEP
BOOP
BEEP



Xi'an Chi Xan.
Born Reno
2071. Father
Nguyen.
Mother Ann.
Two sisters...

SKIP THE FAMILY ALBUM. HIGHLIGHT CRIMINAL RECORD.

Member of nomad outlaw organization called The Lawless. Suspected of numerous regional felonies. No convictions.

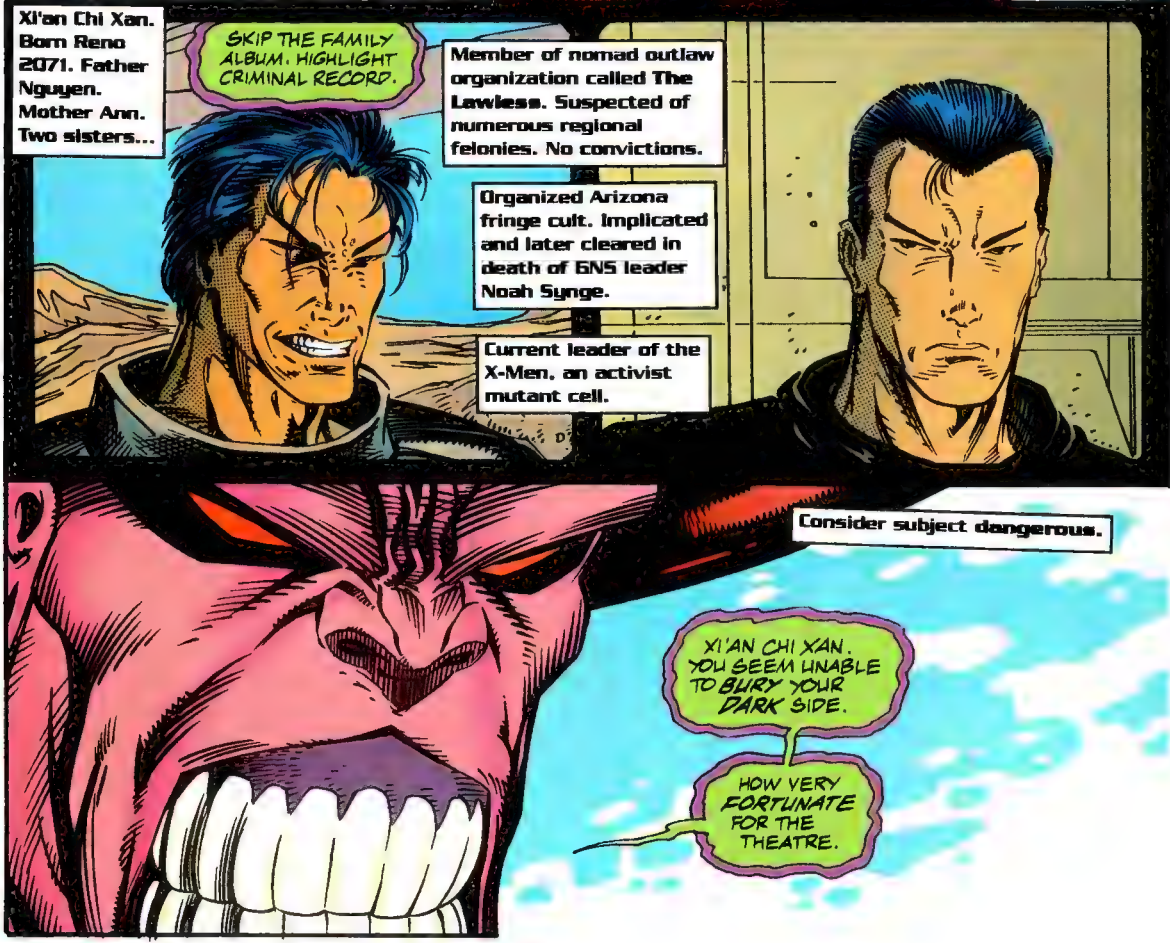
Organized Arizona fringe cult. Implicated and later cleared in death of GNS leader Noah Synge.

Current leader of the X-Men, an activist mutant cell.

Consider subject dangerous.

XI'AN CHI XAN. YOU SEEM UNABLE TO BURY YOUR DARK SIDE.

HOW VERY FORTUNATE FOR THE THEATRE.



SULPHUR SPRINGS
VALLEY, ARIZONA.

YOU CAME
ALL THE WAY OUT
HERE FOR A **BOX**.
YOU'RE STILL
NUTS, XI'AN.

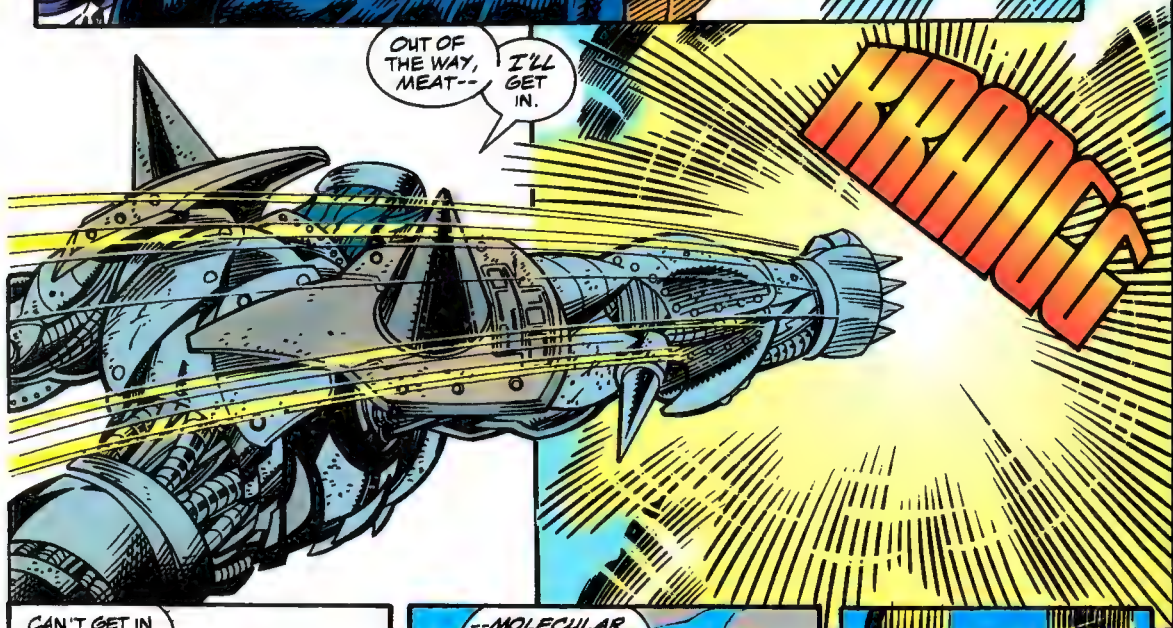
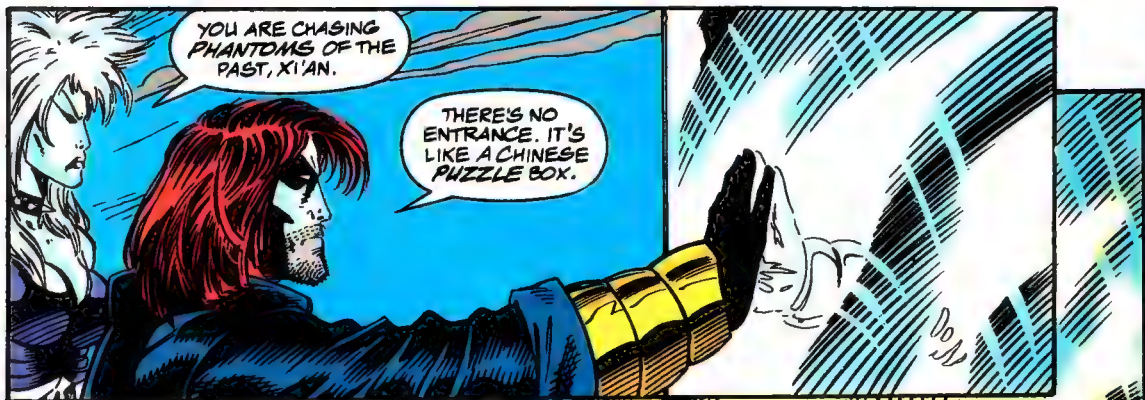
THIS TYPE OF
SILOBLOCK WAS
DEVELOPED DURING
THE MEGACORP
WARS.

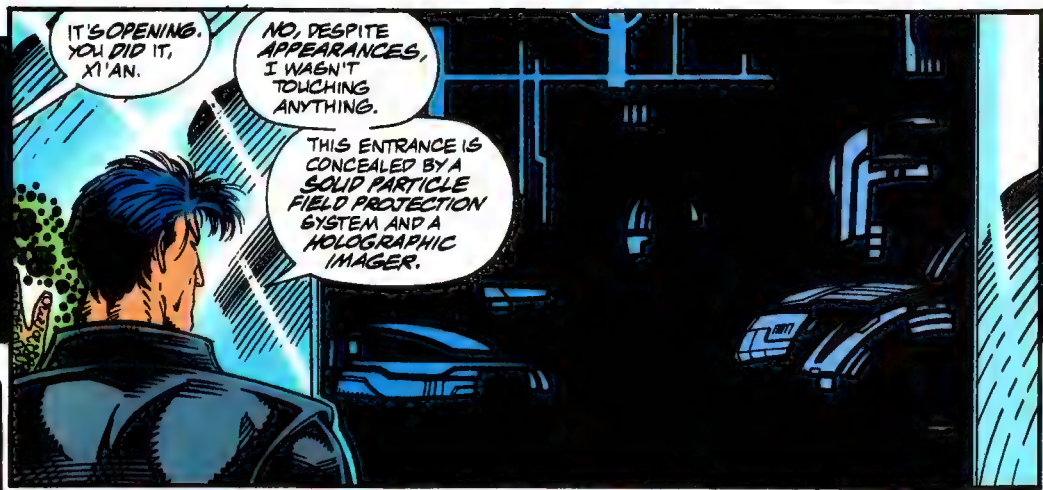
THE FORCES
USED THEM AS
ARMS CACHES,
TACTICAL CENTERS,
BOMB
SHELTERS.

THEY'RE
SUPPOSEDLY
RADAR-PROOF
AND VIRTUALLY
IMPREGNABLE.

AND WHAT
DO YOU EXPECT
TO FIND
INSIDE?

ANSWERS
THAT LEAD TO
THE DRIVER--
OR HIS
GHOST.

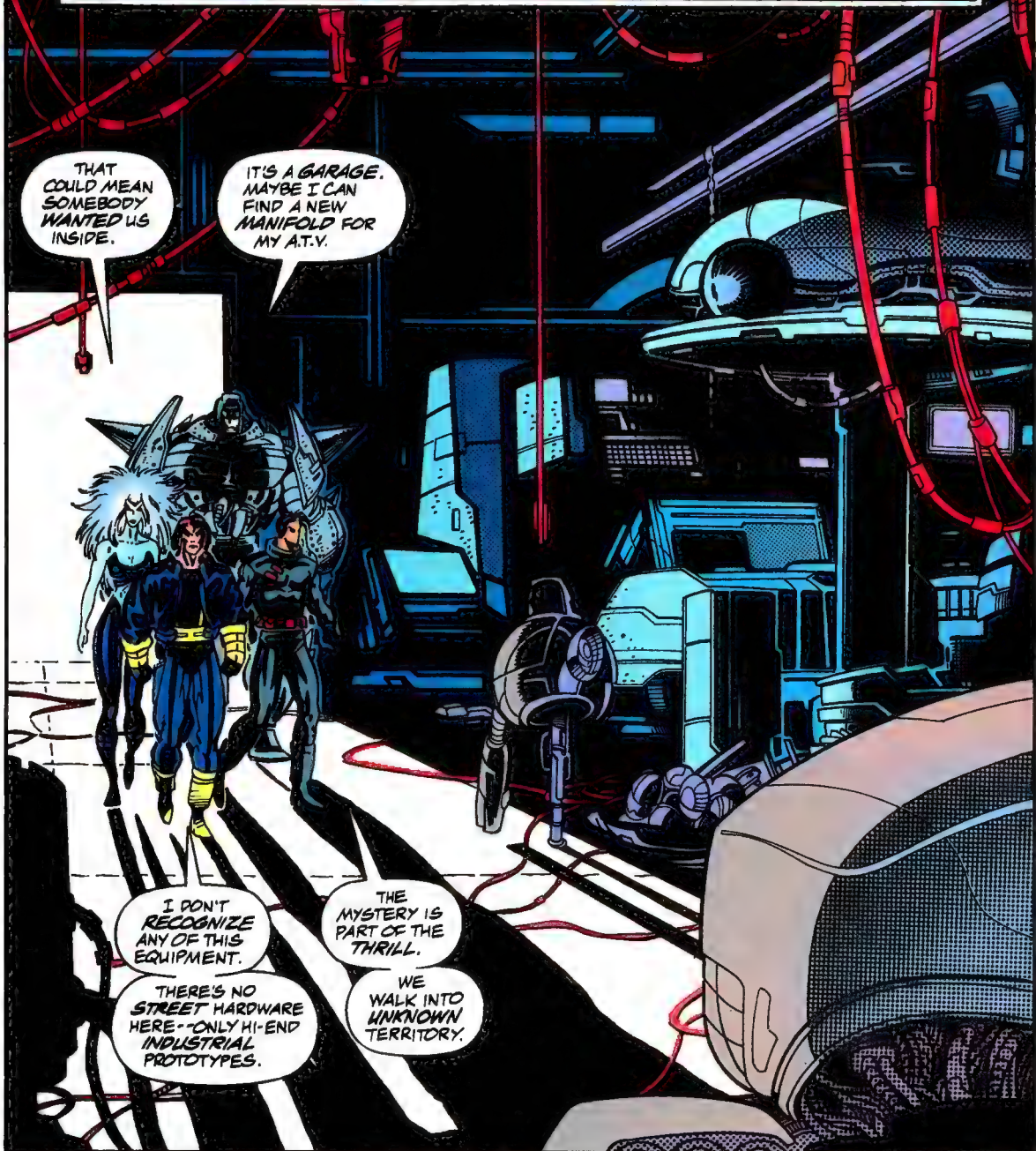




IT'S OPENING.
YOU DID IT,
XI'AN.

NO, DESPITE
APPEARANCES,
I WASN'T
TOUCHING
ANYTHING.

THIS ENTRANCE IS
CONCEALED BY A
SOLID PARTICLE
FIELD PROTECTION
SYSTEM AND A
HOLOGRAPHIC
IMAGER.



THAT
COULD MEAN
SOMEBODY
WANTED US
INSIDE.

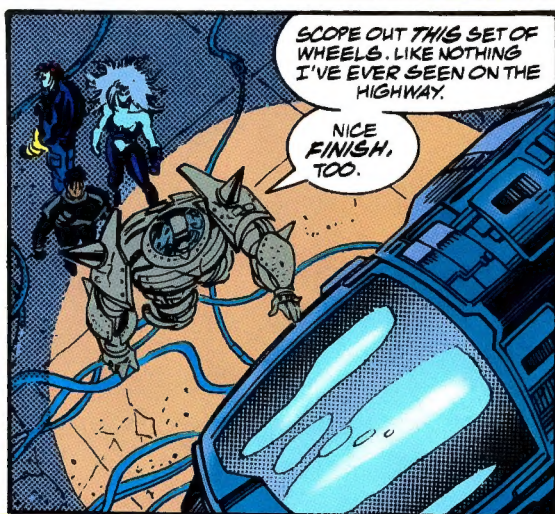
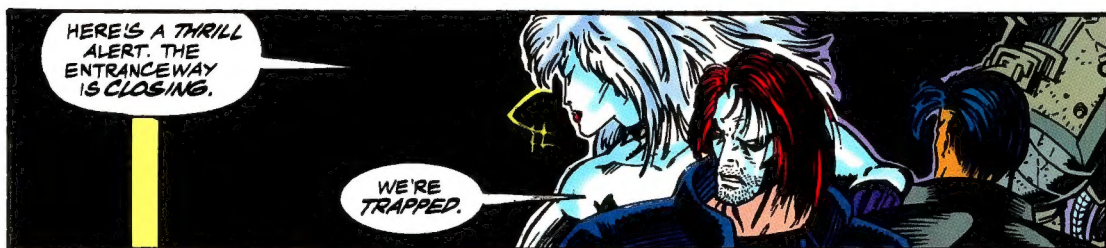
IT'S A GARAGE.
MAYBE I CAN
FIND A NEW
MANIFOLD FOR
MY A.T.V.

I DON'T
RECOGNIZE
ANY OF THIS
EQUIPMENT.

THERE'S NO
STREET HARDWARE
HERE - ONLY HI-END
INDUSTRIAL
PROTOTYPES.

THE
MYSTERY IS
PART OF THE
THRILL.

WE
WALK INTO
UNKNOWN
TERRITORY.





ARE YOU X-PERENCED?

Joey Cavallieri
Editor

Lia Pelosi
Assistant Editor

All letters to be considered for publication must include your name and address, though we will withhold that information upon request. Mail correspondence to: Are You X-perenced, c/o Marvel Comics, 387 Park Ave. South, New York, NY 10016.

Out Of My Head

A short postscript to my class reunion story. Reading comic books didn't hurt anybody. When we were kids, all we heard was how our various choices in entertainment reading and listening material would warp us beyond recognition and turn us into juvenile delinquents. Well, guess what? Among us, there wasn't a serial killer in the bunch. We turned out just fine.

Most of 'em have kids of their own now, and as parents, they're gonna be just fine. Gives me a genuine hope for the future.

Dear Experienced,

Thanks and congrats on a job well done on X-MEN 2099. My favorite of these new X-Men is Skullfire. Just finished reading #9: it was great! When's the first X-MEN 2099 ANNUAL coming out? A foe I'd like to see more of is Avatarr. He was a great challenge to the X-Men in "Fall of the Hammer." It'd be cool if you had another crossover showing how Avatarr gets his revenge on Spidey, Ravage, Punisher, Doom and the X-Men. Maybe this time you could include Hulk 2099! One last thing—bring Metalhead back!

Steven Cummings
8709 Spring Valley Rd.
Belton, MO 64012

If you really liked "Fall of the Hammer", Steve, you should know that there'll be a villain from that now-famous crossover who'll be transmogrified and will be making a wild new appearance in these pages! We don't wanna say any more just yet...it'll ruin it!

Dear Experienced Folks,

Hello! It appears this is going to become a habit. Every time I think I won't be surprised—SURPRISE, I am! The storylines in this book are the best I've ever read. Mr. Moore is doing a fantastic job! I can't wait to see where he's going to take the X-Men in the months (and hopefully many years) to come.

Issue #9 was just too cool! Zhao was a great, insane foe for the crew. I'm actually sorry Xi'an fried his mind, but after the callous way he killed Monster, I don't have much sympathy for the old man. He got exactly what he deserved. It was fitting that Xi'an was the one who took him down.

Speaking of Xi'an, wow! I never had even considered that the figure in all those visions was actually Xi'an himself. I was amazed when I saw that the man was the wilder and undisciplined side of his Xi'an's personality. Of course, the

logical question is: how is this going to change the Xi'an we all know? Hmmmm...

I hope Zhao's X-Men don't all burn out like Monster. Maybe the crew can find a way to fix them before they begin to die. If so, they should join the team and boost the roster some. I mean with Bloodhawk not being around as much as he should (hint, hint) and with Eddie no longer on the team, they could use some new blood. I like Wingspan the best; please keep him around.

Before I go I also wanted to say that I loved the mystery concerning the possibility of Avalon's existence on page #18. Good one!

Michael Aaron Payne
HC 74 Box 515
Graham, TX 76450

If it's new blood you want, Mike, stay tuned. John's got a surprise in store.

Dear X-MEN 2099 people,

Just arriving from the bathtub in a towel, I read X-MEN 2099 #9. I've always enjoyed your comic, but these last couple of issues have really been tickling my fancy. When I first saw your comic I thought, oh, great. Another stupid series. But I picked it up anyway. To my surprise I really enjoyed it!

Getting back to your latest issue though—superb! I can't wait to see the conclusion to this. You guys have made yet another very pleased customer. I never usually write to comic books unless they have been so good that I anticipate their arrival with joy.

Hey, I like Jimi, too, and I love the title of this page. Now I'm the second fan to comment on your tribute to Mr. Hendrix.

Patrick Davis
6519 O'Dell
St. Louis, MO 63139

Would you believe the alternate title for this page was "X's: Bold As Love"? Nahh, didn't think so...

Dear Are You Experienced?,

Ron Lim's art is some of the finest I've ever seen. John Francis Moore's storylines are some of the best in the comic book world.

The characters in X-MEN 2099 are a band of mutants worthy of the title "X-Men." Skullfire is my favorite mutant of the future. As for issue #9, I'd like to give a few of my ideas. If Luna's coming back, why not have her touch Xi'an and make him turn back into the person he was. Then have Xi'an heal Zhao's so-called X-Men and make them followers of Xi'an's X-Men. I can't wait to see what you guys are going to do next. Keep the action and suspense coming. Thank you for a superb book.

Al Voorhees
2790 First Ave.

Huntington, WV 25702

Luna is definitely coming back, Al, but since she's not exactly a nice person, that may be a mixed blessing. Still, what would you say if she joined the team?

Dear Joey,

What are you guys doing over there!? I ask this question because you got rid of Metalhead! He was my favorite character! The idea of someone having a power like that was great and you wasted it by ditching the character. The least you could do is have him visit or give him his own title. Think about it.

I didn't write just to complain. I wrote to give ideas and compliments on the great work you have been doing down there. The covers have been absolutely fabulous and the plots are just as great. For example, I just finished reading issue #9 and the plot you started on pages 10 and 11 is marvelous. Bloodhawk in the Savage Land will be wonderful considering one of the Savage Land's leaders was a creature with the power of flight also. It should be a great story and I can't wait until it comes out.

Jonathan Zempter
1419 W 410
St. George, Utah 84770

Metalhead's departure sure has upset a lot of you guys! We've gotten tons of mail wanting to know when he'll be back. But just in case you hadn't noticed, Jon, he hasn't really gone away!

Dear Are You Experienced?,

X-MEN 2099 is the best comic I've ever read! Even my parents like it! After issue #9 I need to ask a few things:

1) Luna seems to have fallen for Tim, but is she using him to help her escape the Theater of Pain or will she join the group?

2) You mentioned that Junkpile will be returning. In ish #3, Xi'an said that the next time they meet, Junkpile will be both a friend and an ally. Another teammate?

Steven Loufer
(Address withheld by request)

The jury's out for the time being on Luna, as we mentioned earlier. As for Junkpile, he's back all right, Steve, but as the uneasiest of uneasy allies.

NEXT ISSUE

The Driver's origin! The enigmatic and dangerous Brimstone Love! And a conclusion you must not miss!



MINUTEMEN

Bluntman